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LETTER DATED 4 MARCH 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF ALBANIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT
OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to enclose herewith
a letter from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Albania,
Mr. Paskal Milo, addressed to you, with regard to the last tragic events in
Kosova.

(Signed) Agim NESHO
Permanent Representative



Annex

Letter dated 4 March 1998 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs
of Albania addressed to the President of the Security Council

The latest bloody events in the region of Kosova, where many Albanians were massacred during the operations of Serbian police and military forces, compel me to write to you, since I am convinced that you will not hesitate to use your personal influence for the immediate prevention of violence in this area of the Balkans.

The international community has long since denounced the State-sponsored violence and has requested the Government in Belgrade to take the necessary steps for the restoration of basic human rights and freedoms in Kosova.

The Government of Albania has joined the opinion of the international community, declaring in every case that a stable solution to the problem of Kosova can be achieved only through peaceful means, within the framework of a civilized dialogue between Belgrade and Prishtina. To contribute in this direction, we have tried, even recently, to create a bridge for the dialogue with the authorities of Belgrade. Unfortunately, our hope and that of the whole international community for the accomplishment of the necessary steps from Belgrade have been deceived. These latest events, especially, demonstrate that the fragile situation can degenerate into a conflict of considerable dimensions.

Concerned that this event threatens peace and stability in the region and beyond, the Government of Albania kindly requests an urgent meeting of the Security Council in order to discuss the measures needed for the prevention of a new tragedy in Kosova and the region. I would like to inform you that the Prime Minister of Albania, Mr. Fatos Nano, has requested the immediate intervention of the Contact Group to resolve the crisis. We think that there is no time to lose, and it would be useful if the Security Council would demand that the member States of the Contact Group prepare a concrete plan of action to resolve the problem of Kosova.

(Signed) Paskal MILO
